

**State Advisory Committee for Children with Disabilities**  
**NH Department Of Education**  
**February 12, 2014 Meeting**  
**Minutes**

**In attendance:** Candace Cole-McCrea, Kestrel Cole-McCrea, Joan Holleran, Lynda Thistle Elliott, Catherine Meister, Dick Cohen, Kerri Lynn Kimner, Sue Marcotte-Jenkins, Bonnie Dunham, Senator Stiles, Janet Reed, Michelle Rosado.

**Guests:** Santina Thibedeau ~ Bureau of Special Education, Diana Petschauer ~ NHAIM, Stacey Welch~ Bureau of Special Education, Lynn Clough (Special Education Teacher in Contoocook)

**Agenda Item I:** Welcome and Introductions, Approval of Minutes, Public Comment.

- Bonnie welcomed everyone and asked for member introductions.
- Approval of minutes:

Kestrel Cole McCrea made the motion to approve the January minutes and Joan Holleran seconded the minutes, with an amendment in the language of the proposed language from the unmet needs subcommittee recommendation. All in favor, with abstainment from those members not present.

**Agenda Item II:** Guest Speaker, NH AIM ~ Diana Petschauer

- Diana gave a powerpoint presentation overview of Assistive Technology in NH through NHAIM, NH Audiobooks, Read and Write Gold. Powerpoint will be posted on the NHDOE website, under Special Education.

**Agenda Item III:** Legislative Update, Update from SAC Liaisons:

- Senator Stiles updated SAC on the Medicaid Bill. To clarify ~ the services provided to a child, within the IEP versus outside of the special education program, will be different in nature, and not considered duplicative services. Discussion followed.
- Bonnie encouraged SAC members to testify on March 4th at 9:00am regarding the Medicaid bill. Please check website [www.nh.gov](http://www.nh.gov) beforehand, as time may be changed.
- Other bills were highlighted and discussed from the legislative handout provided by Bonnie.
- There were no reports from the SAC Liaisons.

**Agenda Item IV:** Bureau Update ~ Santina Thibedeau

- Smarter Balanced is a new state assessment initiative. It is technology based and made available for all students. Any student can use smarter balanced. A team of supports decides on the student's needs. Color contrast is an option with smarter balanced and may be easier for learning disabled students. Also has the "text to speech" capability to have the assessment read aloud.
- Santina will discuss IEP provisions through NHSEIS at the March meeting.

**Agenda Item V:** Old Business:

- Unmet Needs subcommittee draft recommendation will be tabled until March meeting. The subcommittee is working to revise the recommendation for the meeting.
- SWIFT services have been awarded to selected school districts. SWIFT is in regards to implementation of science and how you make change and sustain change. The SWIFT Center will be directed by Wayne Sailor at the University of Kansas.
- Subcommittees will not meet today

**Agenda Item VI:** New business; Emerging Issues, Announcements, Current Events, Public Comment:

News Media:

- There has been a settlement agreement of 40-50 million in mental health services. (in federal court) resulting in less institutionalization – will need to rebuild infrastructure.
- Two articles in Foster's Democrat Newspaper. First was relative to minimum space for classrooms mandated from NHDOE. The second article was relative to harming special education students by letting retesting.
- Michelle Rosado mentioned an article in the Concord Monitor regarding a Bow Sports Program and unified sports.
- A flyer was shared from the NH Vocational Rehabilitation division of the NHDOE. SAC is encouraged to share the flyer with other parties.

**Agenda Item VII:** Adjournment

- Janet Reed made a motion to adjourn and Michelle Rosado seconded.